

PLATE IX: A PYRAMID SHELTER, YPRES FRONT

(See also photographs 28 and 29, pictorial section)

The sketch shows the pyramid shelters many of which were built in the Vlamertinge Line and the lines in the rear.

These shelters were bomb proof and would accommodate twenty men. They were usually built just behind the support trench and were used for Company and Battalion Headquarters. Others built further in the rear were built for Regimental and Brigade Headquarters, though they were never used as such.

These shelters were very substantially built as indicated on the sketch. Besides the great amount of fill necessary to construct them it was difficult at times to procure the necessary timbers and iron. This often delayed the work.

Most of these shelters shown on map PLATE I were built while the Regiment was attached by platoons to the R. E. companies of the 33rd, 34th, and 49th British Divisions during the period of training from July 11th to August 16th.